By the end of 2018, at least 66.7% (8.71 million) of the entire, worldwide Palestinian population (13.05 million) were forcibly displaced persons. Among them were at least 7.94 million Palestinian refugees and 761,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). Most Palestinian refugees (approximately 79%) live outside UNRWA’s 58 camps. The majority of the refugees still live within 100 km of the borders of historic Palestine, where their homes of origin are located.

Palestinian Refugees and IDPs Worldwide: 2018

Who are the 8.71 million displaced Palestinians?

UNRWA registered 1948 Refugees 5,520,000
IDPs in 1948 Palestine 415,876
1948 Refugees since 1967 344,599
IDPs in the oPt 2,242,579
Non-registered 1948 Refugees 1,160,000 (13.3%)

Precise statistics on the Palestinian population, particularly the number of refugees, in western and Latin American countries are difficult to ascertain. This is due to discrepancies, lack of information and/or lack of recognition as to their status as Palestinians and/or as refugees. These figures therefore represent our best available estimates as to the size of the overall Palestinian population in these countries. We note all those who have acquired other citizenship retain their status as refugees vis-à-vis Israel.